**Curriculum Vitae (project fundamenteel onderzoek)  
Thomas Van Hoey**

**Research Statement: a narrative on your scientific career in past, present and future**

**Short CV**

Thomas Van Hoey (°1991) is a postdoctoral assistant at KU Leuven. He studied Sinology (Chinese Studies) at KU Leuven from 2009-2014 (BA-MA), including one year of language exchange at Suzhou University (2012-2013). He additionally holds a MA in Linguistics from KU Leuven (2015). He read his PhD in Linguistics at National Taiwan University (2015-2020), followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Hong Kong (2021-2022). Since 2023, he is working on modeling complexity and optionality in Benedik Szmrecsanyi’s lab. Thus far, he has supervised 12 MA students. He is on the PhD committee of 3 students that work on Chinese (Yi LI, Sumin GUAN, Jiayin ZHANG), and is co-supervisor of Ruiming MA, who is extending his postdoctoral project into Chinese. He is a member of the International Cognitive Linguistics Association, Societas Linguistica Europaea, and International Society for the Linguistics of English. He represents fellow junior academics on the Facultary Committee Internationalization at the Faculty of Arts, and is president of the alumni association for Sinologists (Sinalumni). In 2023, he reviewed 18 articles for journals such as Cognitive Linguistics, Cognitive Semantics, Language and Cognition, Glossa, as well as conferences like SLE and IcoSem. See thomasvanhoey.com for more details.

**Career path**

Van Hoey is primarily interested in (1) how people construe meaning through iconicity and ideophones, and (2) what factors drive people to select certain variants over others. This has mostly manifested in lexical semantic work related to Chinese expressions, such as detailed semantic studies, typological overviews, and diachronic research on language change. He approaches research questions through a quantitative and empirical manner, using corpus data and programming languages such as R for the analysis.

The postdoctoral project he is working on in tandem with Benedikt Szmrecsanyi makes us of corpus data, which Van Hoey has further enriched with annotations that are then used for statistically modelling the relation between grammatical variation and complexity. This means that the proposed FWO project can readily commence because the lab already has tried and tested numerous methods and can transfer best practices to the PhD student that will be hired.

**Career breaks**

None

**Five main publications and/or achievements**

**(1) Co-I on obtained project**

"Breaking down and rebuilding iconicity: machine learning verified by human learning” (PI Youngah Do, Co-I Harald Baayen, Co-I Christophe Coupé, Co-I Thomas Van Hoey) at University of Hong Kong (GRF 17602723)

Van Hoey provided typological and statistical support for the training set in this project.

**(2) Peer reviewed article (single author)**

Van Hoey, Thomas. 2023. ABB, a salient prototype of collocate–ideophone constructions in Mandarin Chinese. Cognitive Linguistics 34(1). 133–163. https://doi.org/10.1515/cog-2022-0031.

Van Hoey collected dictionary and corpus material and used collostructional methods (programming in R) to investigate the behavior of fixed collocate-ideophone expressions.

**(3) Peer reviewed article (first author)**

Van Hoey, Thomas & Arthur Lewis Thompson. 2020. The Chinese Ideophone Database (CHIDEOD). Cahiers de Linguistique Asie Orientale 49(2). 136–167. doi: 10.1163/19606028- bja10006

Van Hoey’s first database.

**(4) Peer reviewed chapter in handbook (single author)**

Van Hoey, Thomas. 2024. A semantic map for ideophones. In Thomas Fuyin Li (ed.), Handbook of Cognitive Semantics: Vol 2, 129–175. Leiden: Brill.

Survey of the literature on lexical semantics w.r.t. ideophones and typological solution for sensory classification.

**(5) Peer reviewed chapter in handbook (single author)**

Van Hoey, Thomas. 2024. Onomatopoeia in Mandarin Chinese. In Lívia Körtvélyessy & Pavol Štekauer (eds.), Onomatopoeia in the world’s languages, 563–575. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter. doi: 10.1515/9783111053226-047.

Typological description of onomatopoeia in Chinese.

**Other scientific output and impact**

* 2024 Invited speaker LOT summer school — Invited to teach a course on exploratory statistics at the Landelijke Onderzoekschool Taalwetenschap
* 2020 Chinese Ideophone Database (CHIDEOD) —This database was made publicly available in raw format (MS Excel, csv, txt) as well as through a Shiny app for interactive exploration (https://simazhi.shinyapps.io/chideod\_appversion/).
* Since 2020: Reviewer for the following journals: Canadian Journal of Linguistics / Revue canadienne de linguistique, Cognitive Semantics, Cognitive Linguistics, East Asian Journal of Popular Culture, Frontiers, Glossa, Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition, Handbook of Cognitive Semantics, Language and Cognition, Language and Speech, Language Learning, Language Sciences, Linguistics Vanguard, Mapping China Journal, PLoS, Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology, Review of Cognitive Linguistics, Typology at the Crossroads — In 2023 I reviewed 18 different papers.
* 2019 Theme session organization — Dingemanse, Mark, Arie Verhagen, Jonas Nölle & Thomas Van Hoey. 2019. Integrating iconicity: Recent work and future directions. ICLC 15 [International Cognitive Linguistics Conference], Nishinomiya: Kwansei Gakuin University. 6-11 August 2019.
* 2018 Conference organization: ICPEAL 17 and CLDC 9 joint conference [International Conference for the Processing of East Asian Languages and Conference on Language, Discourse, and Cognition] —Role: coordinator of the student committee responsible for organizing the conference
* 2018-2019 Outreach and broader audience: Taiwanese high school students at the International Linguistics Olympiad — Role: facilitate and lecture on typology and semantics
* Since 2016 Conference presentations: 25 oral papers and 3 posters at 19 different international conference venues. Additionally, I have been an invited speaker at 6 venues.   
  —In 2023 I presented at SLE 56 (Athens), ICLC 16 (Düsseldorf), ISLE 7 (Brisbane), ICAME 44 (Vanderbijlpark, South Africa), DGfS 2023 (Köln), BAAHE 2023 (Leuven).
* Since 2015 Outreach on blog ( thomasvanhoey.com ) — On this platform I share both professional aspects of my research and workflows (R tutorials, productivity tools for academics) next to personal details of my PhD and postdoc journey in Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Leuven.

**List the representative and substantial fellowships, projects and any other kind of research grants you obtained within the five years preceding the submission date of this project application.**

* **Breaking down and rebuilding iconicity: machine learning verified by human learning**(PI Youngah Do, Co-I Harald Baayen, Co-I Christophe Coupé, Co-I Thomas Van Hoey)   
  Funded by the Research Grant Council in Hong Kong (GRF 17602723)   
  2024-2025 (budget 860,000 HKD)